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Response

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2100

In re the application of:

Schroder et al

Serial No. 09/316,905

Art Unit: 2152

Filed: May 21, 1999

Examiner: Willett, S. F.

For: IN METHODS OF INTERCONNECTED ROUTER NODES FOR ROUTING DATA TRAFFIC, A METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR IMPERCEPTIBLY UPGRADING ROUTER NODE SOFTWARE AND THE LIKE WITHOUT TRAFFIC INTERRUPTION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Replying to the Office communication of July 17, 2002, please accept the attached formal drawings incorporating the required PTO 948 corrections noted in connection with the informal drawings submitted with the application filing.

All of the claims 1-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as the "obvious" incorporation in the patent to Holte-Rost et al (6,101,327) of the multiple router suggestions of the RFC 1269-IAB standard router.

The Office, however, has conceded that the patent to Holte-Rost et al contains nothing "explicitly teaching updating in multiple routers" as effected by applicants and as required by each of claims 1-22.

Applicants agree--but would further point out that, in accordance with applicants' invention and claims, much more than just "updating in multiple routers" is involved, and, indeed, must be done to solve applicants' problem that is not even hinted at, let alone disclosed, in the reference patent. Specifically, applicants' upgrading improvement resides in such an accomplishment in multiple router systems not used or even necessary in the patent systems, with a